

REMARKS

The present remarks are in response to the Final Office Action dated July 13, 2007, in which the Office Action rejected claims 1, 3-12. The Applicant has amended the independent claims to include additional elements such as a housing having a plurality of key openings that include alphanumeric key openings and a transparent area adjacent each of the key openings, and a keypad disposed between the housing and the electroluminescent panel wherein the keypad comprises alphanumeric keys that protrude through the housing. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, claim 1 and 3-12 are pending in the present application with claims 1, 11, and 12 being the independent claims. In view of the amendments and arguments presented, Applicant respectfully submits that all the claims are now in condition for allowance.

A. Prior Art Rejection (35 USC Section 103(a))

The Office Action has rejected claims 1, 3-7, 9, and 10 as being unpatentable over Richter, German Patent 1918055A (hereinafter referred to as "Richter") in view of Kim et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0109614A1 (hereinafter referred to as "Kim") and in view of Shibamoto et al., U.S. Patent 6,346,973 (hereinafter "Shibamoto"). Although the Applicant disagrees with the ground for rejection, the Applicant has amended the claims to expedite the prosecution of this patent application.

The prior art cited by the Examiner does not teach each element of the newly claimed limitations. For example, Richter does not disclose a housing having a plurality of key openings and a transparent area adjacent each of the key openings. Additionally, Richter does not teach a graphical element positioned adjacent each alphanumeric key opening. Further still, Richter does not disclose a keypad disposed between the housing and the electroluminescent panel.

With respect to Kim, Kim fails to teach *inter alia* each graphical element being indicative of an alphanumeric key function, in which each graphical element is located on the corresponding transparent area in the front portion of the housing. In Kim, there is no teaching directed to a “transparent area” having a graphical element located thereon.

Shibamoto teaches an electroluminescent display. However, there is no teaching of an electroluminescent display that is adjacent a keypad that is disposed between the housing and electroluminescent display, where the keypad protrudes through the housing.

Richter is further cited as disclosing all the elements of the mobile handset according to independent claims 11 and 12 with the missing features of the graphical elements described in Kim. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Richter, either alone or in combination with any other reference, does not teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claim 11.

Newly amended independent claim 11 describes a plurality of key openings that include alphanumeric key openings, which is not taught by Richter. Additionally, Richter does not describe a plurality of graphical elements, wherein each graphical element is positioned adjacent to the alphanumeric keys openings. Furthermore,

Richter does not include the new limitation of a keypad disposed between the translucent housing and the electroluminescent panel, the keypad comprising a plurality of alphanumeric keys that protrude through the translucent housing.

As described above, Kim fails to teach each graphical element being indicative of an alphanumeric key function, in which each graphical element is located on the corresponding transparent area in the front portion of the housing.

With respect to independent claim 12, Richter again fails to teach the front portion of the housing having a plurality of key openings that include alphanumeric keys, in which the graphical elements are located adjacent each alphanumeric key opening, and a keypad disposed between the housing and the electroluminescent panel. Again, Kim fails to teach each graphical element being indicative of an alphanumeric key function, where each graphical element is located on the corresponding transparent area in the front portion of the housing. Additionally, Shibamoto provides no teaching of an electroluminescent display that is adjacent a keypad and a housing, wherein the keypad protrudes through the housing.

Since independent claims 1, 11, and 12 overcome the 35 USC §103 rejections, Applicants respectfully request that each of the claims 2-10 also overcome the obviousness rejection by way of their dependencies.

B. CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. If necessary, applicant requests, under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above-identified application and to charge the fees for a large entity under 37 CFR 1.17(a). The Director is authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) or credit any overpayment(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-3001 of Kyocera Wireless Corp.

Respectfully Submitted;

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